More Than Just Cataloging, In Three Acts

LACUNY Institute 2020/2021
"Ending the Library Stereotype: Non-Traditional Practices for the 21st-Century"
2021 May 6

Adrian Applin, University of Washington
Regina Carra, American Folk Art Museum
Sarah Nguyễn, University of Washington

ACT I

It Happens: Creating as a Librarian

I could have fallen over six flights down

Reflections:

- Flexing the creative muscle (activating collections) helps me be a better librarian/archivist. This piece reminded me:
  - Of power of archives to provide the raw materials to create connection and empathy between people, past and present
  - To be patient with researchers going through the creative process

- We (information professionals) should share and encourage each other in our creative pursuits as part of personal and (to an extent) professional development

ACT II

Activating The Space Through Performance

Mission & Goals

Recreate Metro's space to be open and supportive for artists of marginalized identities through performances, exhibits, demonstrations, residencies, etc.

Artists-in-Residence program

1. 2-3 months supporting select artists to use Metro's equipment and space to produce a piece of work
2. Partner with existing Metro member
3. Close the residency with a show, open to the public
4. Focus artists' work on activating an existing archive, using existing archival workflows, and showcasing Metro's existing accessible equipment for the possibilities that it can produce
5. Create an example model that libraries and archives can follow to create their own artists-in-residence program

Location: Metropolitan New York Library Council

Metro 599 Studios
599 11th Ave
New York, NY 10036

Performance space

Location: Metropolitan New York Library Council

Fine art space

Metro 599 Studios
599 11th Ave
New York, NY 10036

Location: Metropolitan New York Library Council

Digitization & Preservation space

Metro 599 Studios
599 11th Ave
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Location: Metropolitan New York Library Council

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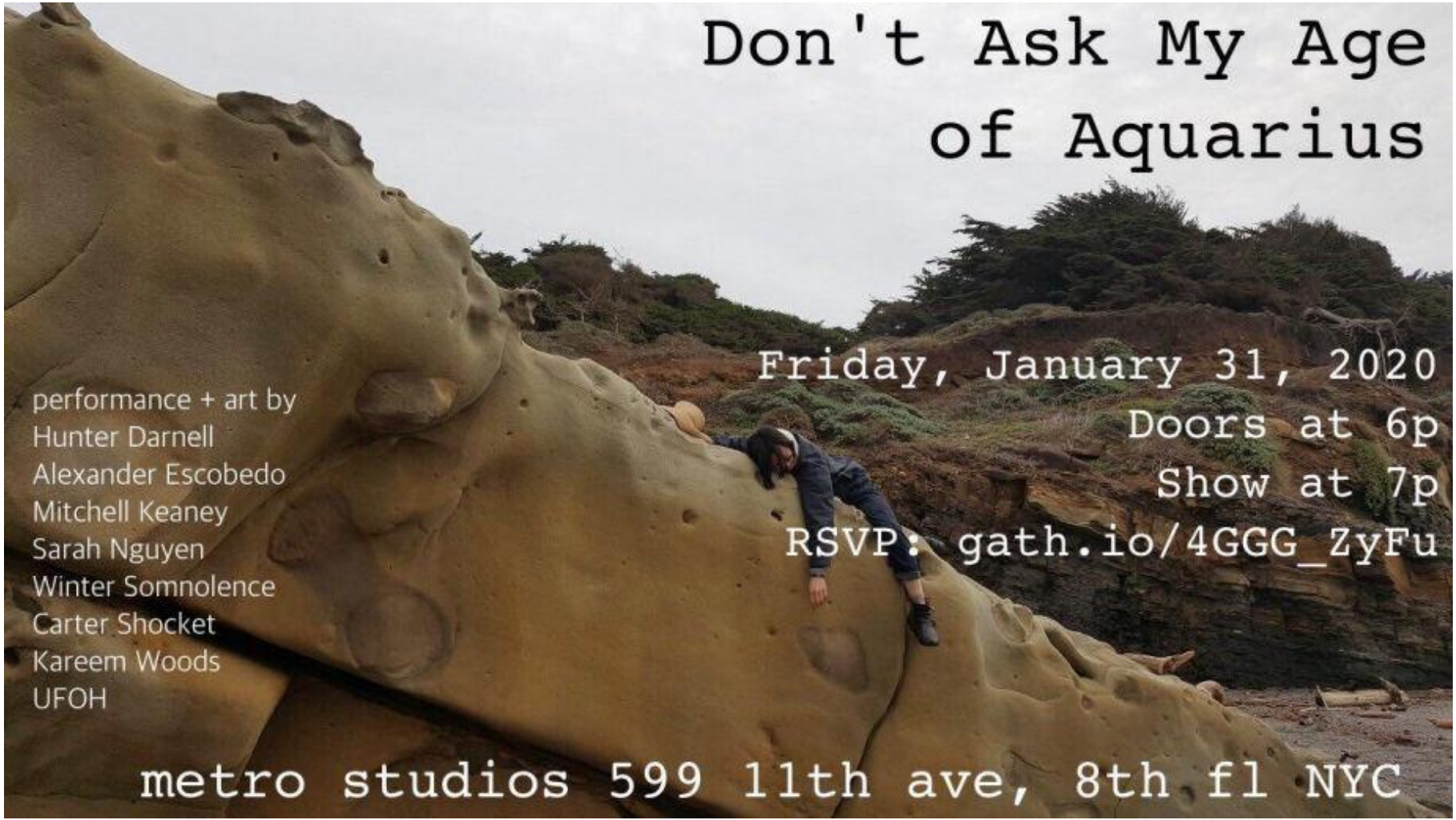
Oral History & Audio Documentation space

Available Equipment

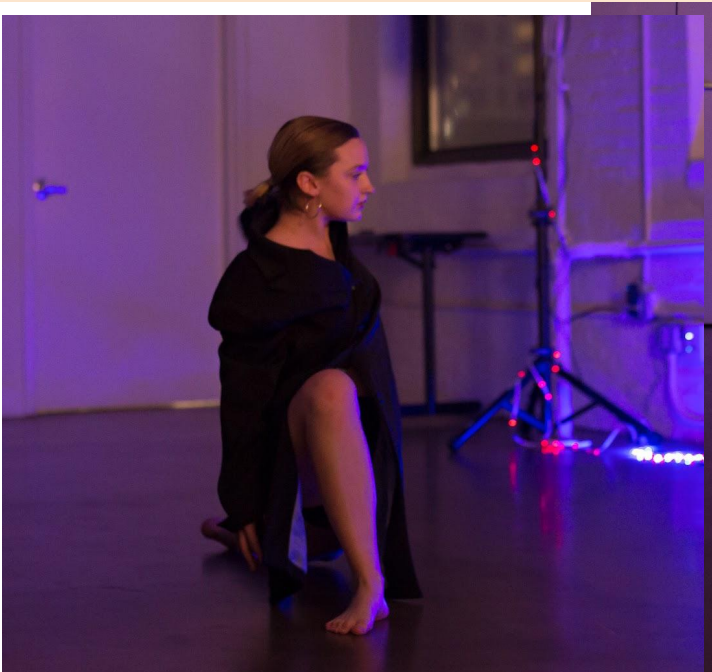
- PA Sound system
  - 2 450W powered PA speakers
  - Mixer: 4 mono inputs, 4 stereo inputs + RCA-in and out
  - XLR and 1/4" cables
  - Digital audio interface: MOTU 4pre
- LED Light strings
- Camera: Canon DSLR Camera EOS Rebel T5
- Projector: Dell m115HD
- Camcorder: Canon XA10
- Art wall 8”h x 24.5”w
- Performance space 33”w x 20”L



Link out to archived RSVP event web page

5 Dancers + Musicians

- Hunter Darnell
- Sarah Nguyen & Mitchell Keaney
- Kareem Woods
- UFOH



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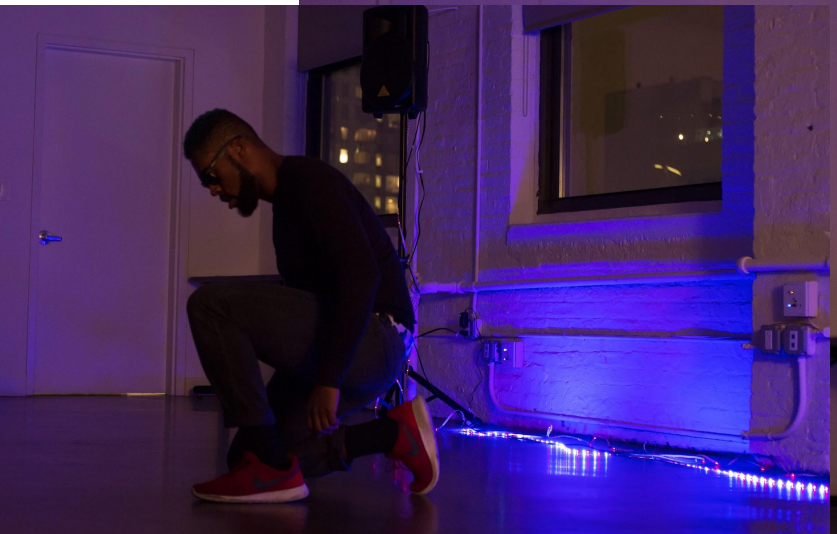

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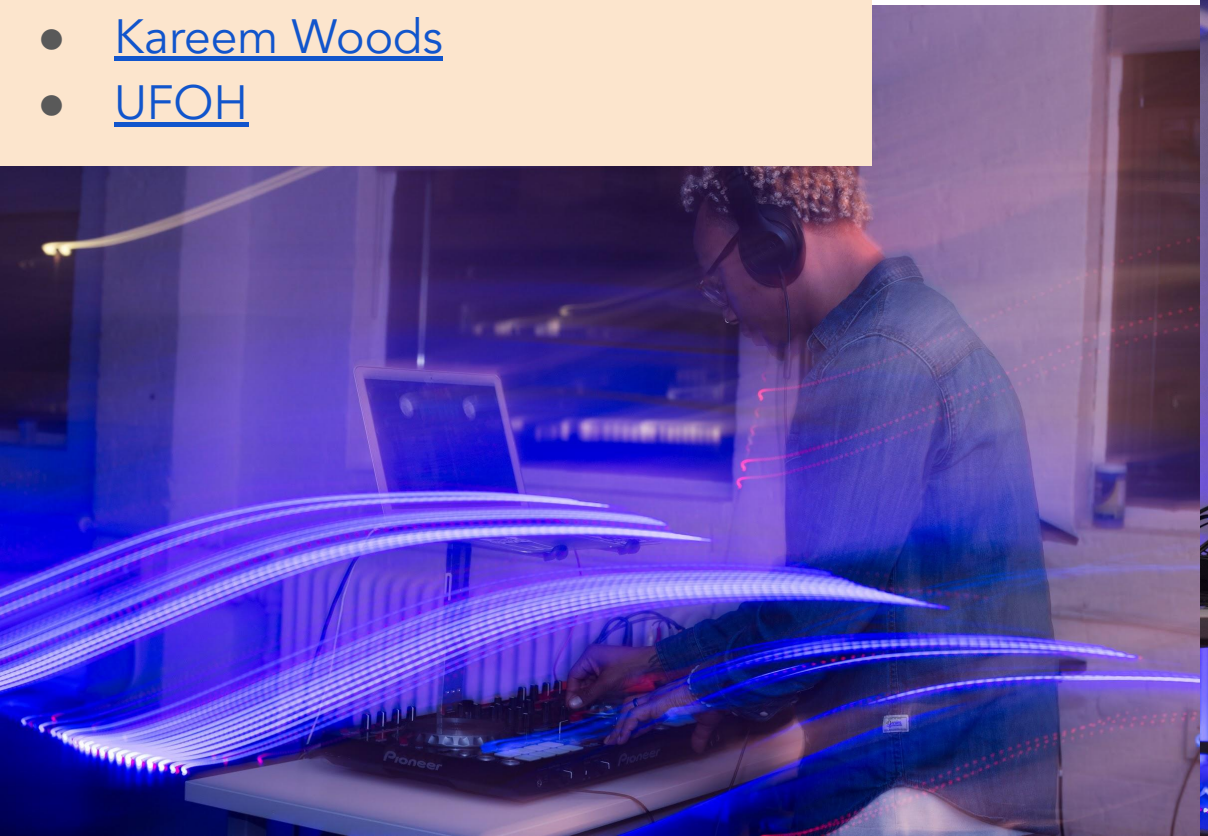

3 Fine Artists

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- Carter Shocket
- Winter Somnolence

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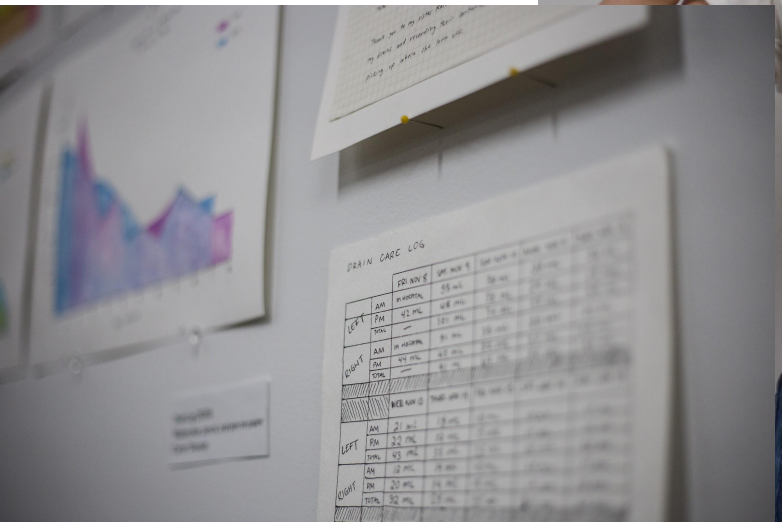

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Spring 2020 Artists-in-Residence

March - May 2020

- Carter Shocket: Trans-mythologies dancer and visual artist. Documenting and aggregating trans-stories, recreated through mirror body histories.
- Tar Of: Iranian electronic band and visual artists. Crowdsource Iranian community for a/v footage to digitize and create contemporary music from archival records
- Alex Escobedo: Incarceration of Latinx through “Las mañanitas”

Use Metro a/v digitization station, audio booth, and studio space for archival work into their performance creations

Produce individual or joint final show by June 1, 2020

Artist Outcome

Space and time to create their own work

Support in understanding the opportunities and workflows that library and archives' provide for artists (promoting personal digital preservation)

Produce a show, highlighting the work created within the Metro space

Representation in a safe and open space

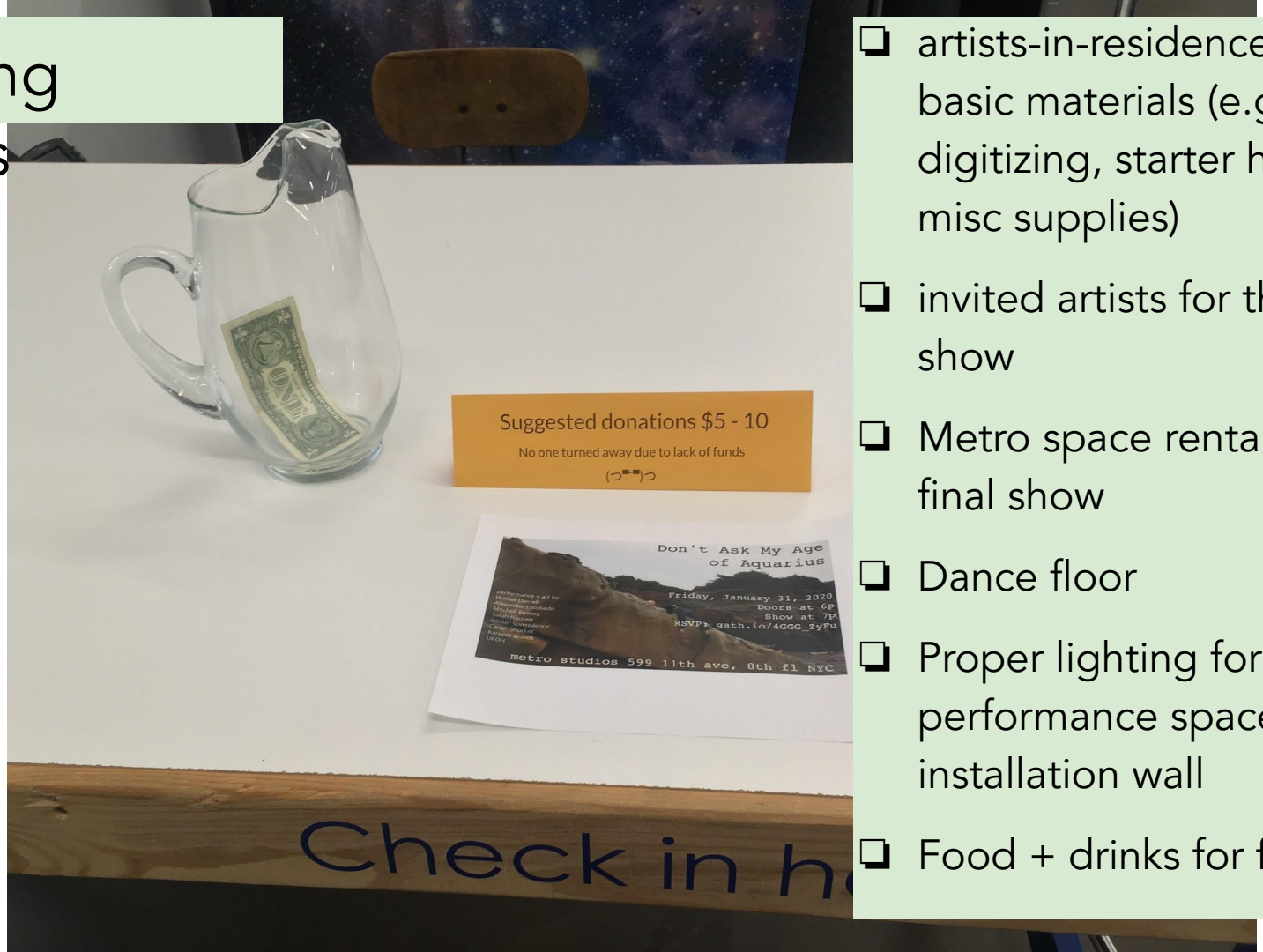
Audience Outcome

Knowledge of

- Metro as an organization and a space
- Resources that a library/archive can offer to artists
- Personal archiving workflows

Inspiration of the artists' marginalized story

Funding Needs

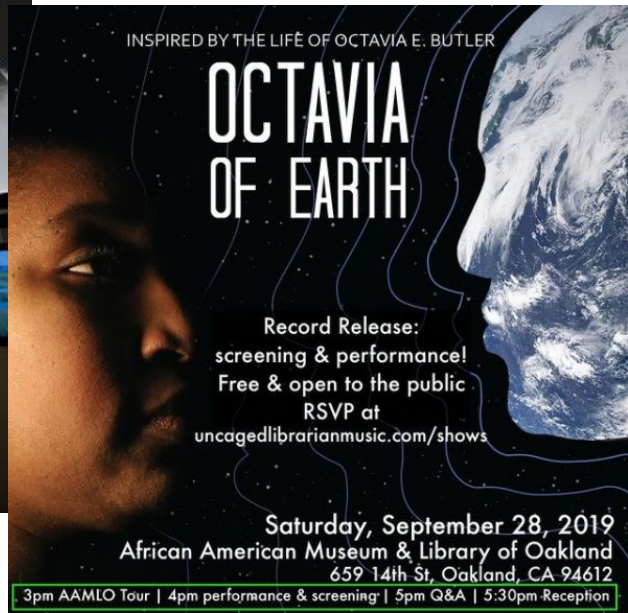

Suggested donations $5 - 10
No one turned away due to lack of funds
(つ▪▪)つ
Don't Ask My Age of Aquarius
Friday, January 31, 2020
Doors at 6p
Show at 7p
RSVP: gath.io/4GGG_ZyFu
metro studios 599 11th ave, 8th fl NYC
Check in h

- ❏ artists-in-residence to cover basic materials (e.g. digitizing, starter hard drive, misc supplies)
- ❏ invited artists for the final show
- ❏ Metro space rental for the final show
- ❏ Dance floor
- ❏ Proper lighting for performance space + art installation wall
- ❏ Food + drinks for final event

Uncaged Library Productions + AAMLO

Performance space

African American Museum and Library at Oakland (Oakland, CA)


INSPIRED BY THE LIFE OF OCTAVIA E. BUTLER
OCTAVIA OF EARTH
Record Release:
screening & performance!
Free & open to the public
RSVP at
uncagedlibrarianmusic.com/shows
Saturday, September 28, 2019
African American Museum & Library of Oakland
659 14th St, Oakland, CA 94612
3pm AAMLO Tour | 4pm performance & screening | 5pm Q&A | 5:30pm Reception

Images from performance of “The Devil Girl From Mars”

ACT III

Octavia of Earth

OCTAVIA OF EARTH

ADRIAN APPLIN

ABOUT ME
(AND UNCAGED LIBRARY PRODUCTIONS)

ABOUT ME:

- 3rd year MLIS student at UW
- Interest in intersections between LIS and social justice
- Current artist-in-residence and board member for ULP

ULP MISSION: "Uncaged Librarian Productions lifts up stories that sustain the hearts and minds of social change workers in the Bay Area and beyond. In particular, ULP produces collaborative music, theater, film, and data that highlights the struggles and victories of LGBTQ people, people living with HIV, and people of color in our ongoing fights for dignity, existence, and liberation."

ABOUT “OCTAVIA OF EARTH”

Overview:

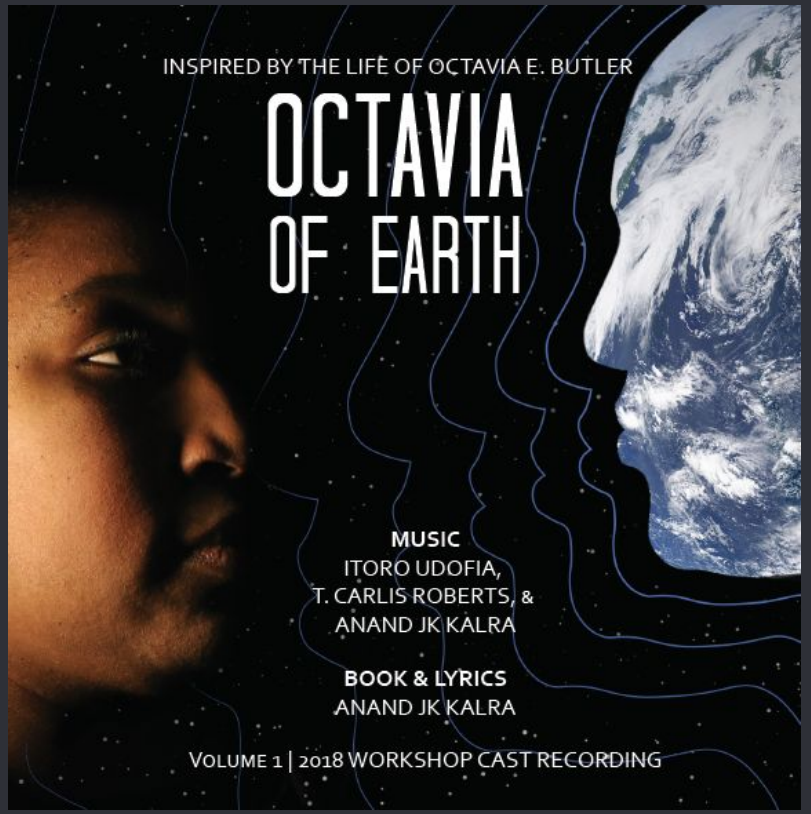
- Archival origins (Huntington Library)
- Octavia Butler, Afrofuturism, growing interest in her work
- “Documusical” format

2017-2018: AIRSpace Fellowship, live performances at SAFEHouse Arts

2018-2019: Studio album

2020: Fiscal sponsorship with Independent Arts & Media and Virtual House Party series

Future: feature film



CLIP 1: “THE DEVIL GIRL FROM MARS”

CLIP 2: “HYPNOSIS”

CLIP 3: “PATTERNS”

Thanks!

For more information, visit:

uncagedlibrarianmusic.com

Watch the show at our free May 22 virtual house party

“Octavia of Earth” studio album available on Spotify and Apple Music

email: adrian.j.applin@gmail.com

Thank you for joining!

Q & A?

Adrian Applin, University of Washington | japplin@uw.edu
Regina Carra, American Folk Art Museum | rcarra@folkartmuseum.org
Sarah Nguyễn, University of Washington | snguye@uw.edu